

**To:** Allen, Laura[Allen.Laura@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]; Press[Press@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; StClair, Christie[StClair.Christie@epa.gov]; EOC Public Information[EOC\_Public\_Information@epa.gov]; stclairsails@gmail.com[stclairsails@gmail.com]  
**From:** Hull, George  
**Sent:** Wed 9/9/2015 1:01:08 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Urgent reporter fact check

Is the reporter asking if that much is flowing now, or before the spill? If she is talking about after the spill, we should make sure she understands that we are treating the water before it enters the river.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 8, 2015, at 8:47 PM, Allen, Laura <[Allen.Laura@epa.gov](mailto:Allen.Laura@epa.gov)> wrote:

Is there a link I can send so she can find that info?

On Sep 8, 2015, at 8:19 PM, Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)> wrote:

You can find information about flow rates in one of the attachments to our internal review - which has a nice historical summary too. Based upon 2009-2014 flow data, the average annual discharge from the Gold King Mine and three nearby mines (Mogul, Red and Bonita, and American Tunnel) reached approximately 330 million gallons per year.

USGS measured increased flows at a streamgage starting at about 12:30 p.m. and ending about 7:15 p.m. This resulted in a provisional calculated flow volume of 3,043,067 gallons discharged from the Gold King Mine. The EPA's original estimate of 1 million gallons discharged from the Gold King Mine was based on an estimate of the size of the adit. A streamgage is an instrument that measures volume by measuring flow, which is much more precise.

**From:** Allen, Laura  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 08, 2015 6:15 PM  
**To:** Press; Grantham, Nancy; Gray, David; StClair, Christie; EOC Public Information;

stclairsails@gmail.com

**Subject:** Fwd: Urgent reporter fact check

Anyone know if this is accurate? See below.

## Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Rachel Estabrook <[restabrook@cprmail.org](mailto:restabrook@cprmail.org)>

**Date:** September 8, 2015 at 7:16:56 PM EDT

**To:** <[allen.laura@epa.gov](mailto:allen.laura@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Urgent reporter fact check

Hi Laura,

Can you help me with this, please? Really appreciate it.

Rachel

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rachel Estabrook** <[restabrook@cprmail.org](mailto:restabrook@cprmail.org)>

Date: Tue, Sep 8, 2015 at 5:15 PM

Subject: Urgent reporter fact check

To: [Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov](mailto:Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov)

Cc: Ryan Warner <[rwarner@cprmail.org](mailto:rwarner@cprmail.org)>

Hi Melissa,

I'm a producer at Colorado Public Radio, the NPR affiliate in Denver. I have an urgent fact check about the Gold King spill based on an interview today with Governor John Hickenlooper. The [Colorado Statesman newspaper quotes](#) your office saying that the same amount of contaminated water that spilled on Aug 5 flows out of the mine every four days. Is that correct information?

I really appreciate it.

Rachel

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Rachel Estabrook  
Reporter/producer, *Colorado Matters*  
Colorado Public Radio  
7409 South Alton Court | Centennial, CO, 80112  
303-871-9191 x458

c: 603-828-7705

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